

THE PULSE OF WASHINGTON: REAUTHORIZATION OF SAFETEA-LU

ARIZONA TRANSPORTATION REAUTHORIZATION SUMMIT

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PRESENTATION BY:

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CURRENT SITUATION

- CURRENT HIGHWAY/TRANSIT AUTHORIZATION EXPIRES SEPTEMBER 30, 2009
- SINCE 1978 THERE HAVE BEEN SIX REAUTHORIZATION BILLS FOR SURFACE TRANSPORTATION
- VARIOUS FORMS OF “TEA’S” FROM ICETEA TO TEA-21 TO SAFETEA-LU
- **NOT ONE** REAUTHORIZATION BILL HAS BEEN PASSED ON TIME BY CONGRESS
- NEW ADMINISTRATION HAS TO GET ITS ACT TOGETHER
- NEW CONGRESS HAS TO GET ORGANIZED WITH 20 NEW HOUSE MEMBERS AND AT LEAST FIVE NEW U.S. SENATORS
- CONGRESS CANNOT REALLY ACT UNTIL IT GETS A PROPOSAL FROM THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION
- OUR PROJECTION FOR PASSAGE—**2011**

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN 2009?

- CONGRESS WILL HOLD A NUMBER OF HEARINGS IN MARCH, APRIL AND MAY AND THE HOUSE MAY THROW A PROPOSAL OUT ON THE TABLE
- SENATE WILL HOLD HEARINGS BUT THEY USUALLY WILL NOT ACT UNTIL THE ADMINISTRATION PROPOSAL IS IN PLACE
- HOUSE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP HAS ALREADY SAID THAT THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA) REAUTHORIZATION IS A PRIORITY—AGAIN, IN THE HISTORY OF THE CONGRESS, THE FAA AND SURFACE TRANSPORTATION REAUTHORIZATIONS HAVE **NEVER** PASSED IN THE SAME YEAR
- NO DOUBT THAT OUR NATION'S WORST ECONOMIC CRISIS SINCE THE DEPRESSION WILL BE THE ADMINISTRATION'S AND CONGRESS'S #1 PRIORITY
- BRIGHT SPOT—LITTLE DOUBT THAT AN ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE WILL BE PUSHED FORWARD BY CONGRESS IN EARLY 2009 WITH A SIGNIFICANT INFRASTRUCTURE PACKAGE FOR HIGHWAYS [\$30 BILLION] AND TRANSIT [\$10-12 BILLION]
- CURRENT CRITERIA—PROJECTS CAN BE FUNDED THAT CAN GO TO CONSTRUCTION WITHIN 120 DAYS AND THE FEDERAL MATCH IS 100%
- PROSPECTS OF PASSAGE, EVEN OVER REPUBLICAN OBJECTIONS IN THE SENATE--**GOOD**



SHOW ME THE MONEY!



- CURRENT FEDERAL GAS TAX OF 18.3 CENTS CANNOT KEEP UP WITH A SPEND OUT RATE OF \$286 BILLION
- CHAIRMAN OBERSTAR HAS ALREADY ANNOUNCED THAT HE WANTS A \$500 BILLION REAUTHORIZATION BILL
- HOUSE T&I COMMITTEE RANKING MEMBER JOHN MICA WANTS A \$1.5 TRILLION REAUTHORIZATION WITH HALF OF THAT COMING FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR I.E. TOLLS, LEASING, ETC.
- THE NATIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION POLICY AND REVENUE STUDY COMMISSION CHAIRED BY U.S. DOT SECRETARY MARY PETERS RECOMMENDED ,OVER HER OBJECTIONS, A 25-40 CENT INCREASE OVER A SIX YEAR PERIOD IN THE FEDERAL GAS TAX FOR THE NEXT REAUTHORIZATION
- REPORTS THAT OBAMA TRANSPORTATION TRANSITION TEAM INQUIRING WITH FOREIGN SOURCES INTO THE ISSUE OF “CONGESTION PRICING”
- BOTTOM LINE PROJECTION—
 - NO SIGN OF A GROUNDSWELL OF PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR ADDITIONAL FEDERAL FUNDING GOING TOWARD INFRASTRUCTURE—PARTLY DUE TO ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN
 - NO STRONG PUSH YET FROM INDUSTRY FROM GRASSROOTS FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES
 - RESULT—SMALL INCREASE IN 6 YEAR REAUTHORIZATION UP INTO THE \$300-350 BILLION RANGE
 - MAY BE A INDEXING OF THE CURRENT GAS TAX
 - NO INCREASE IN INNOVATIVE FINANCING OR OTHER MECHANISMS
 - P3’S WILL PROBABLY FACE SOME LEVEL OF REGULATION AND OVERSIGHT
 - **NOT MUCH WILL CHANGE—BUT WATCH OUT IN 2015!!**

THE PLAYERS – PEOPLE ARE POLICY

NEW SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

- CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD —
PARSONS BRINCKERHOFF
- FORMER DEPUTY SECRETARY OF
TRANSPORTATION UNDER
PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON
- FORMER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER – NEW
YORK METROPOLITAN TRANSIT
AUTHORITY
- STRONG BELIEVER IN INNOVATIVE
FINANCING AND THE FEDERAL
TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM
- HE IS SUCH A LOGICAL CHOICE
THAT HE PROBABLY WON'T GET
THE JOB

MORTIMER DOWNEY



THE PLAYERS – PEOPLE ARE POLICY

NEW SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

- IN CURRENT POSITION HE OVERSEES HIGHWAY AND TRANSIT PROJECT FUNDING AT THE STRONGEST METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION IN THE NATION, THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
- FORMER MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION POLICY AND REVENUE STUDY COMMISSION, WHO VOTED FOR THE INCREASE IN THE FEDERAL GAS TAX
- COULD FACE OPPOSITION FROM HIGHWAY INTERESTS DUE TO HIS STRONG TRANSIT ORIENTATION, BUT HE HAS OVERSEEN THE EXTENSIVE TOLL ROAD NETWORK IN THE BAY AREA
- MAY HAVE INSIDE TRACK

STEVE HEMINGER



THE PLAYERS – PEOPLE ARE POLICY

CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

- FIRST STAFF MEMBER OF THE OLD PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE TO EVER BECOME CHAIRMAN
- AS CONGRESSMAN, WAITED 32 YEARS TO BECOME CHAIRMAN
- VERY BRIGHT, MULTILINGUAL, STRONG PROPONENT OF BIKE TRAILS, TRANSIT AND HIGH SPEED RAIL
- WILL HE GIVE UP DISBURSING PROJECTS TO COLLEAGUES AND GIVE UP HIS POWER AS CHAIRMAN AFTER 32 YEARS—DON'T THINK SO!

JIM OBERSTAR (D-MN)
CHAIRMAN, HOUSE TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE



THE PLAYERS – PEOPLE ARE POLICY

CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

- 24 YEARS IN CONGRESS—PRIOR TO THAT HE WAS A GERONTOLOGIST
- STRONG BELIEVER IN GOVERNMENT AND THAT P₃'S ARE BAD
- STRONG ADVOCATE FOR ORGANIZED LABOR AND THE FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

PETER DEFAZIO (D-OR)
CHAIRMAN, HOUSE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT
SUBCOMMITTEE



DeFazio on how many P₃'s he supports...

THE PLAYERS – PEOPLE ARE POLICY

CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

- GETS ALONG FAIRLY WELL WITH MAJORITY LEADERSHIP—STRONGLY SUPPORTED AMTRAK REAUTHORIZATION BILL
- BELIEVES THAT PRIVATE SECTOR DOES HAVE ROLE IN FINANCING PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE
- STRONG SUPPORTER OF HIGH SPEED RAIL

JOHN MICA (R-FL)
RANKING MEMBER, HOUSE HIGHWAYS AND
TRANSIT SUBCOMMITTEE



THE PLAYERS – PEOPLE ARE POLICY

CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

- AVID ENVIRONMENTALIST AND CHAMPION OF CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION
- LIBERAL FROM CALIFORNIA WITH STRONG SUPPORT FOR FEDERAL LABOR ISSUES

BARBARA BOXER (D-CA)
CHAIRWOMAN, SENATE ENVIRONMENT AND
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE



THE PLAYERS – PEOPLE ARE POLICY

CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

- STRONG SUPPORTER OF FEDERAL AID HIGHWAY PROGRAM
- IN ALL OTHER RESPECTS, THE COMPLETE OPPOSITE OF CHAIRWOMAN BOXER

JAMES INHOFE (R-OK)
**RANKING MEMBER, SENATE ENVIRONMENT
AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**



Thank You for your time!

Questions? Contact us!

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